

THE TRUMAN STAFF ADVISOR

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CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTED

At the May 11, 2006 Staff Council Meeting we said farewell to members who have served the past year by providing a certificate of appreciation for their service and personal time and contribution to the council, and welcomed the newly nominated members as a result of the April elections.

Susan Hamilton, Chair provided her closing remarks as she presided over her last Council meeting as Chair. She thanked all of the committee chairs for their hard work over the past year and passed out a list of accomplishments focusing on the Sick Leave Bank and Fitness map as two positive programs that have moved forward.

The program was turned over to Curt Devan, director of human resources, to open the floor to nominations for the new chair and vice chair. After some discussion, Jennifer Thompson, Science, was nominated and elected by unanimous vote as the new Chair of the Staff Council.

She then took over the council and opened the floor for the Vice-chair position. Brian Hudnall, Physical plant was nominated as well as Todd Kuhn, ITS. A ballot was taken of the members present, and the first vote resulted in a tie. A second vote was then taken, and Todd Kuhns was selected as the Vice—Chair of the staff



On-line nomination process proved successful, but left the Staff Council with six vacant slots.

Council for the coming year.

Jennifer closed the meeting by saying that we will need members to step forward and serve on committees either as a chair or a member.

The Staff Council will not meet over the summer months but will convene at the beginning of the Fall

SICK LEAVE BANK TOPS ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THIS YEAR

At the May Staff Council, Susan Hamilton provided a list of all of the accomplishments by the Staff Council for 2006. The *Sick Leave Bank* was proposed to the Board of Governors and is now being formu-

lated into Board policy for subsequent approval and adoption by the Board. Once approved the human resources office will provide a series of meetings to inform the staff of how the bank works as

well as established timelines for implementation. In addition, to the Leave Bank the *Truman Wellness Program Fitness Trail Brochure* was created. A copy of the brochure can be printed off at the Staff Council website.

Inside this issue:

New Members take over	2
Looking for Volunteers	2
New Staff Luncheon	2
Points of Excellence	3
Staff Survey	3
Staff Council Mission	4
2006 Accomplishments	4

Special points of interest:

- New Chair and Vice Chair elected
- New members and email address listed
- Points of Excellence Program
- 2006 Accomplishments Listed—page 4

MEMBERS ARE READY FOR THE COMING YEAR

Katie Best	Public Relations	kbest@truman.edu
Paul Detweiler	Physical Plant	n/a
Curt Devan	Human Resources	devanc@truman.edu
Debbie Engen	Justice Systems	dengen@truman.edu
Kristin Flannigan	Social Science	kristinf@truman.edu
Brian Hudnall	Physical Plant	n/a
Brenda Killen	Business Office	bkillen@truman.edu
Todd Kuhns, Vice-Chair	Information Technology Services	tkuhns@truman.edu
Tim Maize	Physical Plant	tmaize@truman.edu
John Mounsey	Residence Life	mounsey@truman.edu
Chuck Parks	Information Technology Services	chuck@truman.edu
Steve Peeler	Physical Plant	sdpeeler@truman.edu
Jennifer Thompson, Chair	Science	jthompson@truman.edu
Laura Thrasher	Business Office	lthrash@truman.edu
Kimberly Titus	Registrar's Office	ktitus@truman.edu
Vicky Wehner	Student Health Center	vwehner@truman.edu
Cindy Woods	Advancement	cwoods@truman.edu

The Council has six vacant positions that will need to be filled for the coming year.

If you would like to be a member of the Staff Council, see Jennifer Thompson, chair or Todd Kuhns, Vice-Chair for more information.

FOUR COMMITTEES ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Four Committees of the Staff Council continue to look for new members and volunteers as they continue to plan an ambitious year.

The four committees are: Policies Committee (Vicky Wehner, chair); Staff Development & Recognition Committee (Deb Engen, chair), Spirit Committee

(Kimberly Titus, chair), and University and Community Relations Committee who will be looking for a new chair as

Jennifer Thompson's recent nomination to chair of the Staff Council leaves it vacant.

"The committees are the heart of what we do", Jennifer said. "Without the participation of

the council members and other staff members volunteering their time we would never be able to accomplish the projects and programs that we would like to do."

The committee chairs will be looking for volunteers in the coming year. Members that have ideas, innovative approaches to solving issues and concerns, and are willing to listen to other staff members are welcome.

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"NEW STAFF MEMBERS" LUNCHEON IS A SUCCESS

The Spirit Committee under the direction of Kimberly Titus sponsored a new event this year. As part of an official greeting to new staff coming to Truman, several members of the committee have invited the new staff members to lunch. This informal gathering is a way for new hires to get to know other staff members, put a name to a face, and

find out other activities that are happening on campus. The committee also talks about being 'involved' and being a volunteer on the staff council, and possibly even being nominated as a member in the near



future. All in all Kimberly believes this is a worthwhile program to immerse the new staff in Truman activities as well as the Kirksville community. The staff walk away with a better understanding of the campus, community and council and a few new friends.

A PUBLICATION OF THE STAFF COUNCIL

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We're on the Web!

<http://staffcouncil.truman.edu/>

MISSION

The Staff Council at Truman State University works to represent staff issues, to foster cooperation and communication, to support the student-learning mission of the University, and to provide staff with opportunities to contribute and participate in that mission. The Staff Council recognizes that people are our most valuable resource and to this end the Council strives to:

- Represent staff issues collectively and report directly to the President of the University;
- Provide opportunities for collaboration between staff and students, faculty, administrators, and other members of the University community;
- Facilitate staff representation and participation in university planning and decision making that affects Truman as a whole; and
- Recognize the value of staff contributions and the diverse range of experience and expertise that each staff member brings to the University.

2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Your Council has worked diligently this year and has accomplished the following:

1. Proposed Sick Leave Bank as Board policy;
2. Created a wellness map of campus, available on-line;
3. Hosting "Getting to Know new staff members" luncheon;
4. Created new "Points of Excellence" awards program for staff;
5. Entered Staff float in July 4th Kirksville city parade;
6. Sponsored two faculty/staff blood drives on campus;
7. Created and placed online an email "Thank You" card
8. Assisted the Salvation Army in providing "bell ringers".
9. Held Spirit event at a Truman basketball game;
10. Created "Service Advantage" a professional development monthly series for staff;
11. Participated in the Shape Up - Kirksville, Shape Up - Missouri;
12. Entered float in Truman's Homecoming parade;
13. Prepared and conducted a University survey for staff;
14. Members participated in several workshops, seminars throughout the year;
15. Members appointed to several committees throughout the year;
16. Investigated tuition discounts for part-time staff;
17. Participated in the 2006 University conference, "Uniting Staff: Becoming An Empowered Workplace";
18. Worked with SERVE Center for staff volunteers;
19. Participated on the SPAC Committee for the University;
20. Encouraged participation in faculty/staff Campaign.

